

Steps taken to seal Assam-Bangladesh border

*200. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to seal and secure the Assam-Bangladesh border;
- (b) how many kilometres of the border have been sealed so far; and
- (c) the measures taken to secure the unfenced portion of the border which includes riverine areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) to (c) Indo-Bangladesh Border in the State of Assam is 263 kms long, out of which 201.51 kms has been secured by physical barriers. Work is in progress in the remaining stretch of 13.38 kms and the balance stretch of 48.11 kms including riverine areas is being secured by deploying non-physical barriers. In addition, the following measures have been taken to further strengthen the border guarding arrangements:—

- (i) Border Security Force (BSF) deployed along the Assam-Bangladesh Border is carrying out round the clock surveillance of the border, *viz.*, patrolling, laying nakas, establishing of observation posts all along the border.
- (ii) Vulnerability of Border Out Posts (BOPs) is regularly being reviewed from the point of view of cross border crimes and strengthened by deploying additional manpower, Special Surveillance Equipments and other infrastructure support.
- (iii) Installation of Border Floodlights all along border security fence.
- (iv) Use of Water crafts/Boats for domination of riverine area.
- (v) Introduction of Force Multipliers and Hi-Tech Surveillance equipments.
- (vi) Conduct of special operations along the border and in depth areas.
- (vii) Upgradation of intelligence network and coordination with sister agencies.

Steel plant at Bayyaram

*201. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state: